

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

WATERHOUSE et al.

Application No.: 09/287,632

Filed: April 7, 1999

For: METHODS AND MEANS FOR  
OBTAINING MODIFIED  
PHENOTYPES



Group Art Unit: 1649

Examiner: A. Nelson

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8/25/00

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In complete response to the Official Action dated July 21, 2000, please amend the above-cited application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (Amended) A method for reducing the phenotypic expression of a nucleic acid of interest, which is normally capable of being expressed in a eucaryotic cell, comprising the step of introducing a chimeric DNA comprising the following operably linked parts:

- B1  
SUB E1
- a) a promoter, operative in said eucaryotic cell;
  - b) DNA region, which when transcribed, yields an RNA molecule comprising an RNA region capable of forming an artificial [stem-loop] hairpin RNA structure, wherein one of the annealing RNA sequences of the [stem-loop] hairpin RNA structure comprises a sequence, essentially similar to at least part of the nucleotide sequence of said nucleic acid of interest, and wherein the second of said annealing RNA sequences